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Frank R Wolf  
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CONGRESSMAN  
**FRANK WOLF**  
REPRESENTING VIRGINIA'S 10TH DISTRICT

## United States Congress

Dear Friend:

I write to invite you to two special Town Meetings I am holding to hear from experts on what is being done to address two pressing issues: gang violence and teen substance abuse. The dates, times and places of the Town Meetings are listed inside. Both meetings are open to parents and students and I encourage you to attend.

Last year, local law enforcement agencies joined with state and federal officials—including the FBI, DEA, ATF and U.S. Marshals Service—to form the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force to tackle the problem of gang violence head on. Much of the funding for the task force has come via my position as chairman of the House panel that oversees the budget of the Justice Department. This regional approach, coupled with education and intervention, is making a difference.

Senior FBI agents and representatives from the regional task force will be on hand to update the community on their efforts. I also have invited Loudoun County's Gang Response Intervention Team to explain its role in addressing this problem through education and intervention.

Teen substance abuse is another important issue. Research shows that children who start drinking at age 15 are four times more likely to become alcoholics than those who start drinking at 21, and teens who drink also are more likely to try marijuana and cocaine. Reports also show that Ecstasy is growing in popularity among teens and over-the-counter cold remedies and methamphetamines are also being abused.

The head of the nation's Office of Drug Control Policy will be on hand to discuss trends in teen substance abuse and to help educate parents about what they should look for if they suspect their children are using drugs or alcohol. I also have invited the president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving to speak, and the author of a new book, *Smashed: The Story of a Drunken Girlhood*, the true story of a young woman's desperate battle with alcohol in high school and college.

I hope you can join me at these two special Town Meetings.

Sincerely,

Frank R Wolf

Frank R. Wolf  
Member of Congress



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## SPECIAL TOWN MEETINGS FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

- Gang Awareness and Intervention
- Teen Substance Abuse



# 10TH DISTRICT *Town Meetings*

## Gang Awareness and Intervention

Wednesday, March 30

7:30 p.m.

Seneca Ridge Middle School Auditorium

Seneca Ridge Middle School

98 Seneca Ridge Drive

Sterling, VA 20164

There have been numerous news reports in recent months about violent gangs operating in northern Virginia. This is a very real and serious problem. Law officials estimate there are now more than 2,500 gang members living in our community. Join me to learn how federal, state and local law enforcement officials and others are working to combat this growing problem through tougher law enforcement measures, education and intervention.

### **SPEAKERS:**

Senior FBI Agents

Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force Members

Loudoun County Gang Response Intervention Team

*Gangs' Deadly Reach Growing  
Younger: Fatal Fairfax Shooting  
Symbolizes New Threat*  
The Washington Post, January 30, 2005

## Teen Substance Abuse

Monday, April 4

7:30 p.m.

McLean High School Auditorium

McLean High School

1633 Davidson Road

McLean, VA 22101

Keeping children from experimenting with alcohol and drugs is challenging. When young people and alcohol mix, the consequences can be deadly. According to the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, more than 6,000 teens die in alcohol-related accidents a year and federal health surveys show that 2.6 million young people don't know that someone can die from drinking too much alcohol. Marijuana remains the most widely used illicit drug among teens—more kids enter treatment programs for marijuana than for all other drugs combined, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse—but Ecstasy is growing in popularity. Over-the-counter cold remedies and methamphetamines are also abused by teens. Join me to hear from experts and others who will share their insight into this problem and offer advice on what signs to look for and how to deal with it.

### **SPEAKERS:**

John P. Walters

DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

Koren Zailckas

AUTHOR OF SMASHED: THE STORY OF A DRUNKEN GIRLHOOD

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

*Drunk Driving  
Fatalities Are Up*

SUN GAZETTE, December 2004

Education is the best weapon in dealing with these issues.  
Parents and students are invited to join me at these informative sessions.